

Herald Times Reporter
Manitowoc-Two Rivers, Wis.

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Jambo Creek buttons available in Mishicot

MISHICOT — The campaign to sell commemorative buttons for Jambo Creek Days, scheduled for June 9-11, 1995, got underway at Pumpkin Fest '94 in Mishicot.

Florence Busse of WOMT Radio in Manitowoc purchased not only the first, but the second and third buttons sold as well. She then presented buttons to George Krause and Jeanette Heyroth of the Mishicot Area Growth and Improvement Committee. Ken Heyroth, vice president of the Mishicot Sportsmen's Club also took part in the presentation.

In 1795, an agent of the Northwest Fur Company of Canada named Jacques Vieau came to what became known as the Jambo Creek area, two miles west of present-day Mishicot. He landed at Two Creeks and then backpacked overland to the Creek, where he erected a fur trading post.

This trading post was the first white settlement of any kind in what is now Manitowoc County. It operated for about two decades.

Vieau traded his goods for furs with the Ottawa and Potawatomi Indians. Because they could not pronounce his name, they referred to the waterway they named after him as Jambo Creek.

A one-room frame schoolhouse was built in 1873 near the trading post site, replacing an older log building. In later years, a Jambo Creek Community Club was organized and met at the school.

In 1922 this club decided to mark the location of the home of the first white inhabitant of Manitowoc County, by setting up a six-foot high memorial boulder. This rock, of native granite, was hauled one mile to its present site using a stoneboat and a team of four horses.

It stands 996 feet north of the location of the original fur trading post, and has a bronze plaque placed on it in memory of Vieau. The plaque was donated by the Nic Kettenhofen shop in Manitowoc.

The stone and plaque were set in the front yard of the

Jambo Creek School. Though the school now is gone, the stone remains in place, across the road from the Mishicot Sportsmen's Club building. It is two miles west of Mishicot. It may be reached by taking Highway 147, turning north on Jambo Creek Road and driving one mile.

The public is welcome to the three-day event which will include an encampment and a reenactment of the French fur trade era.

For detailed information, call 755-2525, or write to Bicentennial, Village Hall, E. Main St., Mishicot, WI 54228.

The Jacques Vieau Bicentennial is sponsored by the Mishicot Sportsmen's Club and Mishicot Area Growth and Improvement Committee, with the help and cooperation of landowners in the Gibson area.

Buttons, costing \$3, will serve as admission to the grounds for the three-day event. They may be purchased from club members or by contacting Bruce Sand at 755-4360.